

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF NORWOOD
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
OCTOBER 12, 2022
7:00 PM
MAYOR BARSA

COUNCILMAN ASCOLESE
COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOSCHINO
COUNCILMAN KIM

COUNCILMAN BRIZZOLARA
COUNCILWOMAN HAUSMANN
COUNCILMAN SULJIC

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Norwood was held at Borough Hall on the above date.

Mayor Barsa called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led those in attendance in a salute to the American Flag and asked for a moment of silence

Mayor Barsa stated:

“Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Law, P.L. 1975, Ch. 231, setting forth the time, date, place and purpose of this Public Meeting through a legal notice published in the Record and Star Ledger, filing a copy in the Borough Clerk’s office, and posting on the bulletin board.”

Roll Call:	Mayor Barsa	Present
	Councilman Ascolese	Present
	Councilman Brizzolara	Present
	Council President Foschino	Present
	Councilwoman Hausmann	Present
	Councilman Kim	Present
	Councilman Suljic	Present

MAYOR’S OPENING ADDRESS

Mayor Barsa announced that this past weekend Norwood lost a valued member of the community, Tom Oppenheimer. Tom was a life member of Norwood’s EMS. He Joined after the September 11th attacks because he wanted to do something to help his community. Tom was always willing to help his friends and neighbors. He will be missed greatly by all who knew him.

Mayor Barsa stated that the Recreation Committee is hosting their 2nd movie night this Friday, October 14th. He advised the public to bring a blanket or some chairs and come to Kennedy Field to watch the original Ghostbusters under the stars. Rockland Kettle Corn will be here selling popcorn. The movie will begin at 7:30pm.

The mayor reminded all that October is national breast cancer awareness month. In 2022 alone, over 280,000 women are expected to be diagnosed with this horrible disease. That does include the men who will develop breast cancer. He said that everyone knows someone who has fought or is fighting breast cancer. Education and early detection are critical.

He went on to say that in honor of all the breast cancer warriors, and to send a message of hope and awareness, the Mayors Wellness Campaign, along with the American Cancer Society, will be hosting Making Strides Against Breast Cancer at Kennedy Field on Sunday, October 16th. Please come out to walk and show your support for those currently fighting and those who have fought. The walk will begin at 9am. If you would like to register a team or donate, the link is available on the Norwood Facebook pages and Borough website. Donations will also be accepted in person on Sunday. All proceeds go directly to the American Cancer Society.

Lastly, the mayor stated that the deadline to register to vote in the November election is Tuesday, October 18th. As a courtesy to our residents, the Borough Clerk's office will be open until 9pm that night to accept any last-minute applications.

CORRESPONDENCE

DPW Thank You Letter

Building Department September Fee Log

Norwood Police Department September Report

Norwood Fire Department September Report

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 2022:07 An Ordinance Establishing Salaries or Wages of Officials and Employees of the Borough of Norwood

It was moved by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to open the meeting to the public for comments concerning this ordinance. All Council Members present voted for the motion. There being no member of the public wishing to be heard, it was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilwoman Hausmann to close the meeting to the public. It was moved by Councilman Brizzolara and seconded by Councilman Ascolese to approve Ordinance 2022:07.

On the roll call vote:

Ayes: Council President Foschino, and Councilmembers Ascolese, Brizzolara, Hausmann, Kim, and Suljic

Absent: None

Nays: None

There being six (6) ayes and no nays Ordinance 2022:07 was approved.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 2022:08 An Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition by a Gift of Property Known as Block 39, Lot 10 in the Borough of Norwood

The mayor read the ordinance by title. Motion by Councilman Brizzolara, second by Councilman Ascolese, that Ordinance 2022:08 be introduced on first reading, with a public hearing on October 26, 2022.

Roll Call

Aye: Ascolese, Brizzolara, Foschino, Hausmann, Kim, Suljic

Nay:

Abstain:

Motion carried.

2. Ordinance 2022:09 An Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition by a Gift of Property Known as Block 169, Lot 4 in the Borough of Norwood

The mayor read the ordinance by title. Motion by Councilman Brizzolara, second by Councilwoman Hausmann, that Ordinance 2022:09 be introduced on first reading, with a public hearing on October 26, 2022.

Roll Call

Aye: Ascolese, Brizzolara, Foschino, Hausmann, Kim, Suljic

Nay:

Abstain:

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Matters listed below are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion of the Council and one roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member requests an item be removed.

Approval of the Following Minutes:

September 28, 2022, Mayor & Council Meeting

Approval of the following Resolutions:

2022:167 Authorizing the Award of Contract for the Purchase of a Police Message Board

2022:168 Awarding Contract for Kennedy Park ADA Compliant Bathrooms Project

2022:169 Authorizing Salary Increase for Construction Office Assistant/Property Maintenance Official

2022:170 Bond Anticipation Note

2022:171 Approving Construction Management Proposal for the Walnut Street

2022:172 Rescinding Resolution 2022-157 – Award of Contract to Smith-Sondy Asphalt Construction Co. Inc. for the 2022 Municipal Road Program

2022:173 Awarding of Contract to Smith-Sondy for the 2022 Municipal Road Program

2022:174 Approving Construction Management Proposal for the 2022 Municipal Road Program

2022:175 Payment of Vouchers

Councilwoman Hausmann wanted to know if there are grants available for the police message board. Chief Krapels explained that this is a capital purchase through the Police Department's budget. Councilman Ascolese stated that there are grants available and they can still be applied for even with the police message board in the budget.

Councilman Kim stated that the wastewater invoice seems very high and wanted to know if there is anything we can do about the price. Mayor Barsa and Borough Attorney Corriston both explained that this is the price given by the County of Bergen and not much can be done about it.

It was moved by Councilman Ascolese and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara to approve resolutions 2022:167 through 2022:175.

Roll Call:	Councilman Ascolese	Aye
	Councilman Brizzolara	Aye
	Council President Foschino	Aye
	Councilwoman Hausmann	Aye (wants to be notified when message board grant is applied for)
	Councilman Kim	Aye
	Councilman Suljic	Aye

Motion Carries

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Ascolese:

Councilman Ascolese explained that the Norwood Seniors did not meet this month but went on a bus trip to New York City. Also, the seniors are happy with the community center work that is being done.

Councilman Suljic:

Councilman Suljic had nothing to report yet.

Councilwoman Hausman:

Councilwoman Hausmann stated that the Environmental Commission hikes are now being held at 11:30am moving forward. She also stated that the community garden in town is looking amazing and there is growth in every plot. She mentioned that the Valley Program is now producing lettuce hydroponically.

The Environmental Commission will make a presentation on the newly proposed clear cutting / tree preservation ordinance at the work session on October 26th. All the members of the Environmental Commission have put in a lot of work for this.

Councilman Kim:

Councilman Kim mentioned that there have been menu changes approved for the free lunch at Norwood Public Schools. Also, the new school nursing plan was instituted in the Norwood Public School. There was also an approval for a professional development workshop.

The Northern Valley High School 8th grade open house is scheduled for 10/19/2022.

The Greenway Trail is moving along with newsletters and a twitter account. The NJPTA is in talks with greenway for shared use of the paths. The next meeting is set for November 2nd, 2022.

Councilman Kim feels that since the position of Mayor is very involved and time consuming, Mayor Barsa should receive a salary. Mayor Barsa stated he does not want anything.

Councilman Brizzolara:

Councilman Brizzolara stated that the Jones subdivision is near completion. The roads are done and 2 of the houses are sold. Councilman Brizzolara also mentioned that the new restaurant on Livingston Street will be opening on October 27th.

Council President Foschino:

Council President Foschino reported that the Norwood EMS will continue to make repairs to their ambulance. He also mentioned that Tom Oppenheimer was a great loss to the community.

Council President Foschino stated that the SCBA grant is still unawarded but there is still 90 million to distribute. Also, Council President Foschino had a meeting with the chief regarding a new truck.

Council President Foschino announced that Project Clean and Green will be on October 22nd from 9am – 1pm and that the shredding truck will be back. Also, Norwood's recycling coordinator will be attending Project Clean and Green to field any questions. Free recycling cans will be available at the event.

Leaf pickup will begin the week of October 17th. Leaves should be placed in a neat pile along the curb line without blocking sewers. Brush pickup will be suspended.

DPW Director Rob Tracy reached out to Borough Administrator / Clerk with a request to hire a full-time laborer. Council President Foschino requested this be listed as a discussion item at the next work session.

Council President Foschino explained that there was a pre-construction meeting held regarding the road program. Northwoods Condos will be finding their own contractor for their own roads. He explained that Neglia Engineering will go over to the site and decided where to start and stop paving.

Council President Foschino announced that the Dog Park is substantially close to completion. Completed improvements include stone dust surface, ADA accessible curb ramp and parking space, perimeter fencing, and tree plantings. The remaining items include trash cans, benches, and pet waste station installation.

Councilman Brizzolara suggested the DPW hiring discussion should come before the personnel committee first.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public. The motion was forwarded by Councilwoman Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara. All councilmembers present approved the motion.

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public. The motion was forwarded by Councilwoman Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara. All councilmembers present approved the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Barsa asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was forwarded Councilwoman Hausmann and seconded by Councilman Brizzolara. All councilmembers present approved the motion. Meeting was adjourned the meeting at 7:27PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Padovano
Borough Clerk